

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (New) A CHO cell deprived of a portion of the gene encoding for CMAH.

Claim 16 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 15 deprived of a gene sequence which encodes for the binding site to the substrate (CMP-N-acetyl-neuraminic acid) and for the binding site to the cofactor (b5 cytochrome).

Claim 17 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 15 wherein said portion is disposed between part of exon 10 and part of exon 15 of the gene encoding for CMAH.

Claim 18 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 15 wherein said portion is within encoding for the sequence disposed between bases 787 and 1598 of cDNA encoding for CMAH.

Claim 19 (New) A cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 20 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 18 deprived of the portion of the gene encoding for the sequence of CMAH disposed between amino-acid 262 and amino-acid 532.

Claim 21 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 22 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein the NCBI accession number of the cDNA is AJ242835.

Claim 23 (New) A CHO cell according to Claim 15, wherein the portion of the gene encoding for CMAH is absent from both alleles.

Claim 40 (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein said protein is at least one recombinant glycoconjugate.